

**Virginia Department of Health
Pandemic Influenza Weekly Report #33
November 13, 2006**

WORLDWIDE UPDATE.

- No changes were reported by the World Health Organization this week regarding human cases of H5N1 influenza. The human case count stands at 256, including 152 deaths.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Central Office

- The next meeting of the Virginia Pandemic Influenza Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- VDH Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Preparedness and Response and Director, Office of Drinking Water gave a presentation to the Joint Conference of the American Water Works and Virginia Water Environment Associations about pandemic influenza and the possible impact on water programs. They discussed pandemic influenza in general as well as the importance of Continuity of Operations Planning and community containment measures.
- Deputy Commissioner, Emergency Preparedness and Response gave a PanFlu Planning Presentation at the Virginia Association of Counties' Annual Conference.
- Virginia Association of Counties (VACO), Virginia Municipal League (VML), VDH, VDEM, have developed a Pandemic Flu Workshop to be conducted for local officials in Harrisonburg on December 1.
- VDH State Emergency Planning Coordinator presented an Emergency Planning / Pandemic Flu Workshop to The Region III Clinical Regional Advisory Network.
- Health Districts and EP&R Regions continue community outreach and coordinated PanFlu planning (refer to attached VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report).

VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report

VDH ACTIVITIES – Regional Reports

- **Central Region**
 - Regional Medical Consultant and Trainer participated in "Operation Health" - Henrico's influenza mass vaccination exercise.
- **Eastern Region**
 - Regional Public Information Officer held a Hospital Public Information Officer Pandemic Influenza Workgroup meeting. The Regional Epidemiologist and Regional Surveillance Coordinator attended.
 - Regional Trainer and Regional Medical Consultant participated in the Virginia Beach Health Department pandemic influenza immunization exercise
 - Regional Medical Consultant gave a presentation on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness at the Virginia Association for Healthcare Resource Materials Management Fall Conference
 - Regional Public Information Officer participated in National Public Health Information Coalition /CDC/HHS conference call planning promotion for National Influenza Week.

VDH ACTIVITIES – Health District Reports

- **Alexandria**
 - Completed the final draft of the Mayor's Working Group Interim Pandemic Influenza Plan. It will be presented to City Council on November 14. Isolation and Quarantine Group met, including the attorneys, family, and judge, and they are working on an After Action Report. Finalizing plans for November 16 Vaccination Exercise.
- **Central Shenandoah**
 - Lexington Health Department and Stonewall Jackson Hospital are doing their Annual Drive Thru Flu Vaccination Clinic on Nov. 11.
- **Chesapeake**
 - Director conducted a PanFlu presentation to Chesapeake Rotary Club members. A "Pandemic Influenza Questions for Chesapeake Businesses and Medical Offices" handout was distributed as well as "Cover Your Cough" posters and PanFlu brochures. Approximately 40 members attended.
- **Chesterfield**
 - Two school nurses made a presentation to elementary school clinic assistants on October 30th and presented materials including the pandemic influenza DVD.
 - This week the pandemic flu educator made a presentation on pandemic influenza preparedness to 20 workers at the Dupont Spruance plant and distributed educational materials.
 - The Powhatan Pandemic Influenza Advisory Committee met and discussed further outreach and education in the community through school nurses, churches, and the Chamber of Commerce. The nurse manager made a presentation to the committee on the recent FLUEX '06.
- **Chickahominy**
 - Contacted Health Services Coordinator for Hanover Schools to prepare for PanFlu for Hanover Schools.
 - Recruited M.D. from Charles City to serve on the Charles City Citizens PanFlu Planning Coalition

- Central PIO re: PanFlu materials for county wide distribution
- Attended Virginia Association of School Superintendent PanFlu Planning Conference in Charlottesville, Va.
- Continued Strategic Planning for PanFlu presentations throughout four counties.
- **Cumberland Plateau**
 - The District's Health Departments in Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, and Tazewell Counties exercised a pandemic flu POD scenario on Friday, November 3, 2006 and administered 608 doses of flu vaccine to approximately 50 participating partners in community health and emergency response agencies (listed in last week's report).
- **Fairfax**
 - Conducted pandemic influenza training for Clinic Room Aides.
 - Held meeting for "Emergency Preparedness Summit for Long-Term Care Facilities" which includes PanFlu training for LTC facility staff.
 - District COOP Working Group met and discussed integration of PanFlu specific items in COOP plan.
 - Deputy Health Director and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator met with Medical Director of the Northern Virginia Community College Allied Health Programs to discuss collaboration on PanFlu planning and operational issues.
- **Henrico**
 - Henrico Health District began to recover from the Pandemic Flu Mass Vaccination Exercise that was held over the past weekend. Supplies and equipment were inventoried, packed and placed in storage, patient survey forms and other data are being reviewed and a survey for exercise participants was developed. Recovery and completion of the after-action report will be an ongoing process, expected to continue until the end of November.
 - Henrico Health Department conducted interviews for the position of Medical Reserve Corps/ Pandemic Flu Program Coordinator.
- **Lenowisco**
 - Pandemic Flu information was distributed during the elections.
 - Epidemiologist and Planner have contacted partners from vaccination site drill for feedback.
 - The Virginia Star newspaper is posting the pandemic flu preparedness checklist on their website as a result of their participation in the pandemic flu drill.
 - Epidemiologist and Planner are compiling pandemic flu packets for local nursing homes and long-term care facilities.
- **Lord Fairfax (Winchester Area)**
 - Planner made presentation and held the first in a series of planning meetings with Shenandoah University's Emergency Management Team on PanFlu planning and response for the University.
 - Planner will conduct After Action review for Valley Shield functional PanFlu exercise in Shenandoah County.
 - Planner conducted Initial Planning Conference for Hospital PanFlu patient management exercise for Warren Memorial Hospital and Valley Health.
 - Planner designed and facilitated Tabletop Exercise for the City of Winchester to prepare the City's Management Teams for the VDEM Region II PanFlu TTX in Fredericksburg.

- **Loudoun**

- Consulted with management representatives of The George Washington University's Ashburn, Virginia campus regarding a future PanFlu presentation to GWU staff and students.
- Consulted with a representative of the Leesburg Optimists Club regarding a future PanFlu presentation.
- Consulted with a representative of Kuehne and Nagel, one a leading logistics provider regarding a future PanFlu presentation for the firm in Sterling, VA.
- Presented county PanFlu plan to the Loudoun Emergency Management Executive Committee for final input and approval.
- Participated in preparation of a handout for the Loudoun CAO to use at the annual VACO/VML Conference for a Pandemic Influenza Panel discussion in Warm Springs, VA
- Provided a PanFlu presentation for 15 staff members of the Leesburg Police Department in Leesburg, VA
- Provided a PanFlu presentation for 98 members of the management and staff of the Loudoun County Department of Mental Health/Mental Retardation/Substance Abuse Services at Rust Library in Leesburg, VA. Emphasis in the presentation was placed on business continuity planning, infection prevention and control measures, and possible factors influencing psycho-social needs in a pandemic.
- Scheduled an initial PanFlu presentation with a senior management representative and security supervisors of America Online (AOL). A follow-on presentation with the entire staff of AOL is anticipated by company representatives. AOL employs approximately 5,000 personnel at its Loudoun location.
- Participated by providing critique of two course modules dealing with pandemic flu and the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) during a pilot offering of the "VIPS and Disaster Response" training course. The VIPS program is a nationwide program under the Federal Citizens Corps volunteer program which sponsors and trains citizen volunteer groups which aid local law enforcement in enhancing public safety. The two modules dealt with "Law Enforcement's Response to a Public Health Disaster and The Role of Law Enforcement Volunteers During a Pandemic".
- "FLUEX 06" - After Action Report sent to VDH.
- Participated in Inova Loudoun Hospital's Code Flu Exercise, to simulate implementation of public health response to a surge of flu-like cases.
- Pandemic Influenza Program Technician joined the planning and outreach team

- **Pittsylvania-Danville**

- Epidemiologist presented Pandemic Influenza information to the Victorian Chapter of the American Business Women's Association, 25 in attendance.
- Member of the Pittsylvania-Danville Pandemic Influenza Planning Committee presented Pandemic Influenza information to 23 Sunday School Kindergarten Teachers at The Tabernacle Church, 384 adults in the Adult Sunday Schools at The Tabernacle Church and 8 Preschool Teachers at Mount Hermon Baptist Church.

- **Three Rivers**

- Health Director and Planner met with the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission to promote of the importance of each county having a current and comprehensive Pandemic Flu Plan. We also provided each with a template and offered our assistance in developing and / or updating county plans.

- **Virginia Beach**

- Pandemic Brochures have been sent to Virginia Beach Public Schools – Distributed to 87 public schools and offices. Target Audience: School children, parents, school employees.
- Launched a Hand-Washing Campaign Poster Contest for all Elementary and Middle school students. Target Audience: School Children
- Community Forums with Retirement Communities held at First Colonial Inn and Commons and at Princess Anne. More will follow.
- Community Forum took place at Great Neck Library.
- Held a Pandemic Influenza Planning Workshop for all city departments, utilized presentations and scenarios to work through department level plans.
- Beachnet (city's intranet) utilized to advertise dispensing exercise and educate city employees about pandemic flu and good hygiene practices.
- Held citywide Dispensing site exercise at the Virginia Beach Convention Center. VBDPH staff, VBMRC, VBCERT, VB Police, VBEMS, VBOEM and other various city staff members participated in supporting the exercise. We provide flu vaccine to the city residents and ended up providing 380 shots and have about 100 others walk through for candy. After Action to follow.
- Presentations given to: Parks and Recreation Department Leadership, Fire Department Leadership, Human Resource Department all provided by the Emergency Planner.
- Epidemiologist and Health Educator provided presentation to Extended Care Facilities; they had about 12 administrators attend and found it very helpful.
- **Western Tidewater**
 - Suffolk Health Department hosted the City of Suffolk Neighborhood College Program. Epidemiologist and Planner conducted a Pandemic Influenza Presentation specific for citizens of Suffolk. Attendance 50 citizen- students.
 - Epidemiologist has been busy preparing the newly hired MRC coordinator to conduct PanFlu Presentations for MRC Volunteers.
 - Planner has taken advantage of busy flu clinics to speak to clients about staying healthy during the flu season.
 - CERT Instructor requested a PanFlu Presentation as part of the curriculum for December class. Planner gladly obliged.